the present Law Commission has not taken up any study on judicial arrears to suggest measures for speedy disposal of cases.

(c) The Law Commission has so far submitted 183 reports to the Government.

(d) The number of reports tabled in the Parliament is 176. Reports Nos. 177 to 182 have been laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 21.11.2002 and are proposed to be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 25.11.2002. The 183rd Report has been received only on 11.11.2002.

(e) As and when a report is received from the Law Commission, the same is forwarded to the concerned Department(s) for examination/ implementation. Periodical meetings with them are also held with a view to pursue the matter.

(f) The number of reports which have not been accepted/require no action is 40.

Treating the Law Commission Report as confidential

553. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to revoke its notification of 2000 which provides that reports of Law Commission should be treated as confidential till placed before Parliament;

(b) if so, the details of the progress made in this regard;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the details about the reports made public after being placed in the Parliament till date and the reports pending with Government for placing in the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Law Commission reports are laid on the Tables of the Houses as per existing convention. Therefore, the reports have to be kept confidential till they are so laid.

(c) All reports of the Law Commission upto its 176th Report have been made public. 177th to 182nd Reports were laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 21.11.2002 and are to be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 25.11.2002. The 183rd Report of the Law Commission was received on 11.11.2002 and preparations are being made for laying it in Parliament.

Compulsory Marriage Registration

554. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to make marriage registration compulsory in various States; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and by when it is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) and (b) There is no general Central law governing all the communities on compulsory registration of marriages. However, those who choose to register their marriage can enter marriage under the Special Marriage Act, 1954. Further, certain personal laws also deal with this issue. For example, section 8 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1995 provides that for the purpose of facilitating the proof of Hindu marriages, the State Government may make rules providing that the parties to any such marriage may have the particulars relating to their marriage entered in such manner and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed in a Hindu Marriage Register kept for the purpose. Section 37 of the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872 provides that marriage between Indian Christians shall be registered. Section 6 of the Parsi Marriage and Divorce Act, 1936 also provides that every marriage under that Act shall be registered. Some of the State Governments have made law for uniform compulsory registration of marriages.

The National Population Policy, 2000 has set the target of compulsory registration of marriages by 2010.